



United States Air Force Museum

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NEWS RELEASE

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EXHIBIT COMMEMORATES BERLIN AIRLIFT

On June 26, 1948 during an intense period of world tension, one of the greatest feats in aviation history began: an immense humanitarian airlift to aid two-and-one-half million Berlin residents held under Russian aggression.

The Allied Forces of the United States, United Kingdom and France combined efforts to organize this airlift, commonly known as "Operations Vittles." Over the next 461 days, forces delivered 2,326,667 tons of food, coal and other materials to help sustain the people of Berlin.

The United States Air Force Museum commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift with the June 26 opening of a special exhibit, "City Held Hostage: Berlin."

The exhibit takes visitors through the Russian zones to get to Berlin – through oppression, rubble and destruction. Inside the city, the enormity and intensity of the massive allied effort that kept it alive is dramatically represented. As visitors leave the exhibit and return to freedom, they are given the opportunity to pause and pay respect to those who made sacrifices for the allied effort.

The exhibit will be on display throughout the upcoming year in the Hall of Honor, located in the main Museum complex.

The United States Air Force Museum is located on Springfield Pike, six miles northeast of downtown. Museum admission and parking are free. For more information, visit our website at <http://www.wpafb.af.mil> or call (937) 255-4704, ext. 330 or 332.

NOTE TO MEDIA: For further information, please contact the United States Air Force Museum Public Affairs Division at (937) 255-4704, ext. 330 or 332.